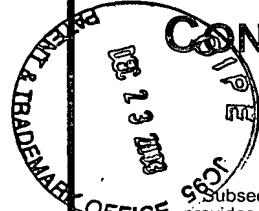


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**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
(RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**



Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/859,665
Filing Date	18 May 2001
First Named Inventor	Robert Cosmo Di LUCCIO
Group Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	C. Anderson
Attorney Docket Number	KCC-15,512

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a.  Previously submitted
  - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
  - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Enclosed
  - i.  Amendment/Reply
  - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declarations
  - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

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**2. Miscellaneous**

- a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-3550

- i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) 12/29/2003 HVUONG1 00000069 09859665
- ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801
- iii.  Other any deficiency in the enclosed fee 770.00 OP

- b.  Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 enclosed
- c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Maxwell J. Petersen	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,772
Signature		Date	17 December 2003

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Comm. for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: 12/17/03

Name (Print/Type)	Maxwell J. Petersen
Signature	

SEND FEES and completed forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450